

*with compliments*

1915.

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FAVERSHAM

Rural District Council.

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ELEVENTH

Annual Report

— OF —

PRIDEAUX SELBY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

*Medical Officer of Health,*

And HARRY CAFFYN, A.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector,

— FOR THE —

Year ending December 31st, 1915.

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Faversham :

F. AUSTIN, PRINTER, COURT STREET.

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1916.

## ***Committees.***

### HEALTH :

W. R. Dixon, Esq.	G. Branchett, Esq.
H. T. Bensted, Esq.	E. Jenkins, Esq.
H. Amos, Esq.	J. W. Videan, Esq.

### HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT :

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H. T. Bensted, Esq.	General Jeffreys, C.B.
E. Jenkins, Esq.	W. W. Berry, Esq.

### BOUGHTON WATER :

W. R. Dixon, Esq.	S. Dunkin, Esq.
H. T. Bensted, Esq.	W. W. Berry, Esq.
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1915—1916.

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Sanitary Inspector:

HARRY CAFFYN, A.R.S.I.

Sanitary Surveyor:

WILLIAM J. COE, Ospringe Road, Faversham.

# Faversham Rural District Council.

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Eleventh Annual Report which deals with the year 1915.

In accordance with the recommendation received from the Local Government Board, I propose to confine my Report to a record of what has taken place during the year, omitting unnecessary tables and descriptions of water supplies, sewerage, etc.

## POPULATION.

The special estimate of the population as supplied by the Local Government Board, is 14,474, calculated at the middle of the year.

## SANITARY WORK.

Reference to the report of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Caffyn, attached will show his inspections and remedies.

A Sanitary Inspector from the County Council has also made inspections in the District under the direction of the County M. O. H.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Of the 165 notifications (excluding 26 cases of tuberculosis) of infectious disease received by me during the year—see table VI—39 cases of Scarlet Fever, 84 Diphtheria, 2 Cerebro Spinal Meningitis and 1 Erysipelas have been admitted to Hospital.

## BEACON HILL HOSPITAL.

A new Reck Disinfector has been placed in the Hospital, and is working excellently.

The routine in the Hospital is going on satisfactorily and well, and my thanks are due to Miss Basan (the Matron) and the Nurses for their invaluable work.



## RAINFALL.

Colonel Honeyball. Mr. Walter Stunt and Mr. Ivo Neame have again kindly placed their records at my disposal, and are as follows :—

	Teynham (Newgardens) 30-ft. above sea level.			Luton, Selling,		Lorenden, Ospringe.
January	...	2.59	...	3.91	...	2.99
February	...	4.18	...	5.06	...	4.98
March	..	0.84	...	0.80	...	0.91
April	...	1.34	...	1.67	...	1.43
May	...	4.08	...	4.07	...	4.18
June	...	1.88	...	0.74	...	1.33
July	...	2.75	...	3.33	...	2.42
August	...	3.57	...	4.09	...	1.91
September	...	2.45	...	3.13	...	3.54
October	...	1.56	...	1.85	...	1.66
November	...	3.58	...	4.09	...	4.20
December	...	5.28	...	7.22	...	6.37
				34.10-ins.	39.96-ins.	35.92-ins.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

The outbreak of diphtheria at Teynham Schools at the beginning of 1915, was dealt with in last year's report.

Measles was very prevalent in the second quarter of the year in the schools at Teynham, Lynsted, Doddington, Newnham, and Eastling. The type was severe and included two cases of measles, infecting the cerebro-spinal tract. There were no deaths.

Eastling School was closed by the School Medical Officer, from July 17th to August 7th. An outbreak of ten cases of scarlet fever in Ospringe Schools was traced to a family from which a child was attending school in a peeling state. The case had not been notified: the epidemic was quickly checked. At the end of the year an outbreak of Diphtheria necessitated closing of Dunkirk Schools from December 23rd: but the chief part of the epidemic and its reduction belong to my 1916 Annual report.

Whooping cough was prevalent in Sheldwich and Eastling in October.

## DIPHTHERIA.

An outbreak in Lynsted in the autumn traced to a neighbouring district, was characterised by severe heart symptoms in most of the cases, but was localised to a row of houses in Greenstreet.

All these outbreaks have had most energetic investigation and treatment.

As in past years there have been numerous sporadic cases of Scarlet fever from different parishes all of which have been dealt with and epidemics controlled.

### SCARLET FEVER.

Two small outbreaks amongst visiting hop-pickers were nipped in the bud.

### PUERPERAL FEVER.

For the sixth year in succession no case has been notified in the District.

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

An excellent working agreement has been come to with the Faversham Urban District Council, by which cases from the Rural District can be admitted to the Urban hospital, and vice versa in the event of epidemics limiting the accommodation in either. Also it has been arranged that the Rural Small Pox Hospital shall be reserved for all Small Pox cases, and the Urban Small Pox Hospital for all cerebro-spinal cases from both districts.

Two cases of cerebro spinal meningitis were treated at the Urban Small Pox Hospital. Both recovered. Two cases of Typhoid fever, four of Scarlet fever and one of Diphtheria from the Rural District were treated at the Urban Hospital at Ken-naways.

One tracheotomy case of diphtheria from the Urban District was treated at Beacon Hill Hospital and recovered.

### COUNTY LABORATORY.

As last year the County Laboratory has been invaluable in assisting in the diagnosis of doubtful cases of diphtheria in Schools.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

26 cases have been notified and 22 deaths recorded.

The 3 outdoor shelters owned by the Council have been most useful. The end of 1915 was most fatal to cases of tubercle of the lungs. Unfortunately many of these cases do not see a doctor until they reach the late stage of the disease, when very little can be done in the way of treatment, though isolation is very carefully attended to.

## FLIES.

Posters were again placed about the District and it is noteworthy that there was only one death from Infantile Diarrhœa during the year.

## MILITARY.

The number of military billeted in the District on December 31st, was as follows:—64 in Ospringe Street, 6 in Dawson's Row, 9 at Queen Court, 7 in Grove Place, and 2 in Water Lane, all in the parish of Ospringe. 120 N.R. are located in the Skating Rink. Total, 208. I have visited and inspected these localities, and suggested improvements in disposal of refuse and sewage to the Authorities.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Much attention has been given to these in the past year and the Bye-laws, which, were only in force in the parishes along the London Road, have been extended to the whole district.

### Housing (Inspection of District Regulations) 1910.

	1915
The number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 ... ..	956
The number of dwelling-houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	Nil
The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders ... ..	Nil
The number of closing orders made ... ..	Nil
The number of dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders ... ..	445
The general character of the defects found to exist ... ..	general repairs.

## SCAVENGING.

is now satisfactorily carried out in the Brents, and in Teynham and Lynsted.

## DRAINAGE.

OSPRINGE Scheme is in abeyance till after the war.

TEYNHAM.—The emptying of cesspools is still very inadequately carried out, partly owing to the excessive rainfall, partly owing to shortage of labour and to the difficulties of night work owing to the lighting regulations.

## HOP-PICKING.

There is a continued improvement in the conditions of the Huts and the quality of food supplied.

## MILK SUPPLY.

There has been no prosecution during the year.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

Mr. Caffyn, the Sanitary Inspector, has done a very large amount of useful work as will be seen from his report which is appended. His tact in dealing with owners of property, slaughter houses and milk establishments has led to most marked improvements during the year, without the necessity of bringing any matters before the Courts. I have systematically visited a large number of premises, and find there is still an enormous amount of work to be done before the sanitation of the District can be regarded as satisfactory, but the progress is steady and good, though slow.

It is impossible to get the work done faster, owing to the difficulties which the builders have in obtaining sufficient labour. A large number of orders for repairs which have been given to builders are hung up on this account but they are being done in rotation as much as possible.

## MANURE.

Constant supervision is exercised over manure landed at Conyer and Oare Wharves by the Sanitary Surveyor.



## POOR LAW RELIEF.

The Clerk has kindly given me the following figures:—

The figures of expenditure for relief are as follows:—

Year ended 30th September, 1915.

			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Inmaintenance,	1st half year	... ..	1787	2	3¼			
	2nd half year	... ..	1575	16	10½			
Out Relief,	1st half year	... ..	626	3	9½			
	2nd half year	... ..	615	1	8			
						4601	4	7¼

## SANITARY COMMITTEE.

May I, before closing this Report, express my appreciation of the very valuable work of the Sanitary Committee which, for the past year, has met once a month to check the work done and discuss with the Sanitary Inspector and me the very many and variable details of our work.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PRIDEAUX SELBY.

Teynham,

April 15th, 1916.

# Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report, 1915.

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## HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

FAVERSHAM,

January 1916.

To

DR. PRIDEAUX G. SELBY,

Medical Officer of Health,

Faversham Rural District Council.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report.

To obtain an adequate idea of the method adopted, work done and improvements obtained it is necessary to read this report in conjunction with that of last year.

During the year, 2,316 visits and revisits have been made and works have been carried out affecting some 482 houses in addition to trade and other premises: and I am glad to say that the year's work has been carried out without friction and very little outstanding work was on the books at the close of the year, which I think should give the Council great satisfaction when it is remembered that there is a very great scarcity of labour owing to the war.

### OFFICE WORK.

The work yearly increases owing to the extra, necessary returns and the extra work done in the way of improvements, etc.

During the year I have issued 330 informal notices and 2 Statutory notices, written 177 letters and sent out 114 School notices, and received 37 written complaints.

### DRAINS AND CESSPOOLS.

Under this heading 252 defects have been remedied during the year. Special attention having been paid to the ventilation of the many drains and cesspools which up to recently had no ventilation and the provision of proper glazed gullies, in place of insanitary "Bell" traps and catch pits.

## CLOSETS, &c.

As mentioned in my last report I have continued to give special attention to the many very insanitary privies existing in the district, and, during the year 129 have been converted into either water closets or pail closets, the results obtained, such as absence of flies etc., has justified the large amount of work entailed.

## GENERAL HOUSE REPAIRS AND CLEANSING.

During the year, 445 defects under this heading have been remedied, and a perusal of the detailed list appended will give some idea of the improvements made and the advantages derived by the tenants if only they would take advantage of their improved surroundings, but I am sorry to say that in many instances they do not, and in a very short time the houses become as insanitary as they were before the Inspector's visit. The good landlord receives very little encouragement, and the Inspector's duties are made very unpleasant by unsatisfactory tenants. I trust that as the education of the working classes advances we shall see less of this very unsatisfactory condition of things. My present experience is, that a good tenant will make a bad thing into a good one, and a bad tenant will turn the best apparatus into a nuisance, and the cleanest house into a pigsty.

I should welcome any legislation imposing a penalty on the dirty destructive tenant.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 84 Registered workshops in the District, including 15 Bakehouses: there are no underground Bakehouses in the District. All Bakehouses have been visited at least twice during the year.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are 14 Slaughterhouses in use in the District, and 720 inspections have been made to them, several of the slaughterhouses have been reconstructed, and are now in a satisfactory condition.

A new register has been made, and fresh licenses issued to all the occupiers, owing to the fact that many of the slaughterhouses had changed hands and the licenses not been renewed.

I am glad to say that slaughter-house Bye-laws have been extended to the whole District, thus putting all Butchers on the same footing, as in my opinion they should do.

The question of Inspection of Meat and other foods has again received considerable attention, with, good results as is shown by the amount of diseased meat condemned which is given in detail below, and I feel that these figures justify the great amount of time spent on this part of my duties.

The chief diseases encountered are: Tuberculosis, Caenuous, Cerebralis, Actinomycosis, cirrhosis, etc., etc.

The Butchers are beginning to understand when an animal is diseased, and now often call me in to advise.

In conjunction with the Borough Inspector, I have endeavoured to persuade the butchers of the District to form an Association and arrange for an insurance scheme whereby the Butcher would not be the loser when meat was found diseased and condemned, but, I am sorry to say, without success: and I am afraid that the necessity will not be brought home to them, until one of their number loses £20 or £30, as will be the case if a whole carcase of beef is condemned. If an insurance scheme was arranged as is done in Sittingbourne and other districts, the reasons for trying to hoodwink the Inspector would disappear, and he would be called in to advise in all suspicious cases and less diseased meat would find its way into the market.

Special attention was again given to the food supply of the Hop-picker's, details of which were given in my special report on that matter.—Very few hawkers were seen, owing to the high cost of all articles of food. The few special stores were conducted in a very satisfactory way.

## MEAT CONDEMNED.

One whole carcase and two forequarters of beef.

Three whole pig's carcasses.

Nine whole carcasses of mutton.

Eighteen pig's heads.

Ten Ox heads.

One Ox tongue.

Seventeen livers.

Thirteen pairs of lungs.

Thirty other organs and parts.

## COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

111 visits have been paid to the cowshed in the District during the year, and the following improvements have been made:—

New Sheds	...	...	...	...	1
Repaved and Channelled	...	...	...	...	8
Redrained or drains repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Ventilation and light improved	...	...	...	...	1



There are 46 registered premises in the District, 3 names have been removed, and 5 added to the Council's register.

The number of cows milked is 355.

Approximate amount of milk produced is:—

745 gallons per day.

5,215 gallons per week.

271,180 gallons per year.

These are actual amounts obtained from the cowkeepers of their yields.

About 237 gallons are consumed in the District per day, and 508 gallons are exported.

### DISINFECTION.

During the year, 137 rooms have been disinfected. The Guards' rooms at the Oare Powder Works were disinfected for the Military.

### WATER ANALYSIS.

One sample of water was taken from a well of two cottages in Faversham Without, the result of which necessitated the well being cleared out and repaired.

### NEW HOUSES.

Six Water Certificates have been granted, and two refused (for the time being) during the year.

### OVERCROWDING.

During the year, 7 cases of overcrowding have been dealt with. This question is especially difficult to deal with just now owing to the temporary increased number of people employed in munition work in the District. The cases that have come before the Council's notice have been very carefully dealt with.

### SCAVENGING.

In your last annual report you mention the unsatisfactory state of affairs at the Brents, I have during the year taken this matter in hand and persuaded the Agents of this property to remove the house refuse once a week instead of quarterly as was done in the past, and the result is very gratifying, as on several occasions I have been thanked by the inhabitants, who say that the reduction in the number of flies was very noticeable during the summer.

## APPENDED IS A DETAILED LIST OF DEFECTS REMEDIED.

I should like before closing to thank you and the Council for the consideration and support I have received in carrying out my duties.

Assuring you of my continued efforts to promote the sanitary welfare of my District.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

H. CAFFYN, A.R.S.I.

(Sanitary Inspector).

## INSPECTIONS, &c., MADE.

Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	956
Premises reinspected	...	...	...	...	1360
Slaughter-house inspections	...	...	...	...	720
Cowshed, etc., inspections	...	...	...	...	111
Workshop inspections	...	...	...	...	45
Inspections re infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	126
Schools inspections	...	...	...	...	4
Inspections re water supplies	...	...	...	...	3
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	15
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	

Complaints received (written)	...	...	...	...	37
Notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	330
Notices served (Statutory)	...	...	...	...	2
Letters sent	...	...	...	...	177
Notices sent to schools re infectious disease	...	...	...	...	114

## DWELLING HOUSES.

Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	9
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	70
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	60
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	64
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	67
Gutters, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	11
Yards repaved	...	...	...	...	18
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	49
Overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	...	7
Houses cleansed, etc.	...	...	...	...	45
Windows put in and repaired	...	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	9

## DRAINS AND CESSPOOLS.

New drains	...	...	...	...	29
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Drains and cesspools ventilated	...	...	...	...	54
New gullies	...	...	...	...	31
“Bell” traps demolished	...	...	...	...	12
Sinks, new and repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Sink wastes repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Flush and cleanse drains	...	...	...	...	17
Empty cesspools	...	...	...	...	29
Repair cesspools	...	...	...	...	4
New cesspools	...	...	...	...	11
New covers to cesspools	...	...	...	...	15
Defective vent shafts	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	8

## CLOSETS, &amp;c.

New water closets	...	...	...	...	7
New Pail closets	...	...	...	...	17
Repair structure	...	...	...	...	11
Privies, converted to water closets	...	...	...	...	68
Privies, converted to pail closets	...	...	...	...	61
New pans and traps	...	...	...	...	3
Cleanse and flush	...	...	...	...	5
Ventilate closets	...	...	...	...	2
New pails to closets	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	9

## WATER SUPPLY.

Clean out wells and rainwater tanks	...	...	...	...	4
New covers	...	...	...	...	9
New rainwater tanks	...	...	...	...	3
Provide supply	...	...	...	...	2
Samples taken	...	...	...	...	3
Certificates : granted 6, refused 2	...	...	...	...	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	2
Ditto	...	...	...	...	28

Table I—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

NAME OF DISTRICT, FAVERSHAM RURAL.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		
		Un-corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of age		At all Ages
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1000 Net Births	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
1910	15,300	343		22.35	207	13.6			33	96.2	
1911	14,000	304	297	21.21	207	14.6			38	125.0	196 14.0
1912	14,000	305	302	21.57	167	11.9	23	18	22	72.1	162 11.5
1913	14,000	298	296	21.14	185	13.2	31	19	25	84.4	173 12.3
1914	14,000	328	320	22.85	196	14.0	40	20	22	72.1	176 12.5
1915	14,474	314	311	21.48	242	16.8	31	23	20	64.3	219 15.1

Area of District in acres } 43,964

Total population at all ages - 14,129

Total families or separate occupiers 3241

At Census, 1911.



Table II — Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

NAME OF DISTRICT, FAVERSHAM RURAL.

Notifiable Disease	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED								Total Cases Removed to Hospital
	At all Ages	At Ages — Years							
		under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cholera (C) Plague (P) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group) ...	87	12	70	1	3	1	...	84	
Erysipelas ...	4	...	...	...	1	3	...	1	
Scarlet Fever ...	44	8	29	6	1	...	...	42	
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Relapsing Fever (R) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued Fever (C) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	19	...	3	6	5	4	1	5	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	7	...	4	3	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	
Totals ...	165	21	106	17	10	8	1	134	

Isolation Hospital — Beacon Hill Isolation Hospital, Buckland (not for Tuberculosis).  
The Faversham Urban Isolation Hospitals, at Kennaways and Luddenham, are in the Rural District.

Table III—Deaths registered during Calendar Year 1915, classified by age & cause  
NAME OF DISTRICT — FAVERSHAM RURAL.

Causes of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the District									Total Deaths, whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the Districts
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up'ards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes } Certified	209	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
} Uncertified	10	3	1	...	...	...	1	2	3	0
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	4	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup...	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1
Influenza ...	5	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	21	...	...	2	3	6	5	3	2	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	20	...	...	...	...	1	1	10	8	1
Rheumatic Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease...	24	...	...	...	...	1	1	11	11	5
Bronchitis ...	17	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	12	1
Pneumonia (all forms)...	17	2	1	2	...	1	...	10	1	3
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Alcoholism ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation including Premature Birth	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	4	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	...
Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	66	8	...	...	...	...	11	11	36	16
Diseases Ill-defined or unknown	23	5	...	...	1	...	1	2	14	2
Totals ...	219	23	4	6	6	10	23	56	91	37

Sub-Entries — Nil.